

Message Text

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 01952 050839Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 /088 W
-----060058Z 011667 /75

P R 050800Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1851
INFO AMCONSULATE DOUALA BY POOCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 1952

DEPT PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ET, CM
SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION VISITS CAMEROON

REF: A. STATE 82633 B. DAKAR 2889 C. YAOUNDE 1836

1. THE THREE MAN GOODWILL DELEGATION FROM ETHIOPIA LED BY
LT. COL ABEBE BELAYNEH ARRIVED IN YAOUNDE APRIL 29 AND
REPORTEDLY RETURNED TO ETHIOPIA APRIL 30 OR MAY 1. THE OTHER
DELEGATION MEMBERS ARE ABATE AGUIDE, ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR TO
SENEGAL, AND ADAMSSU CHERINET OF THE ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT. THIS IS THE FIRST ETHIOPIAN MISSION TO CAMEROON
SINCE THE TAKEOVER BY THE EPMG.

2. THE DELEGATION WAS RECEIVED BY PRIME MINISTER BIYA
DUE TO THE ABSENCE OF PRESIDENT AHIDJO. LT. COL ABEBE SPOKE
TO JOURNALISTS AFTER THE MEETING. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE
DELEGATION CARRIED A GOOD WILL MESSAGE FOR AHIDJO FROM MENGISTU
AND THAT IT BRIEFED BIYA ON THE "REAL SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA." IN
RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, ABEBE SAID THAT THE ETHIOPIAN DECISION TO
OUST THE AMERICANS WAS NOT FOR AMERICANS ALONE, BUT FOR ALL
IMPERIALIST COUNTRIES. HE EXPLAINED THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT'S
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TURN TO THE LEFT AS A RESPONSE TO PRESSURE FROM THE ETHIOPIAN
MASSES. ACCORDING TO THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT
NEWUUBULPATIO, ACAP, ABEBE ADDED THAT "THE REVOLUTIONARY ETHIOPIAN
PEOPLE HAVE TURNED SOCIALIST AND ARE DETERMINED TO LEAD ON TO
COMMUNISM." THE FRENCH VERSION OF ACAP DOES NOT INCLUDE THIS
COMMENT, MERELY STATING THAT "ETHIOPIAN HAS ADOPTED SOCIALISM."

3. WHEN QUESTIONED ON THE SITUATION IN DJIBOUTI, ABEBE SAID ETHIOPIA'S GOAL WAS THE "AUTHENTIC INDEPENDENCE OF ALL POLITICAL PARTIES" AND DEPLORED ANY FOREIGN INTERVENTION THERE.

4. COMMENT: THE POST HAS NOTED REPEATED DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THE FRENCH VERSION OF ACAP, WHICH IS GENERALLY NEUTRAL IN STANCE, AND THE NORMALLY LEFT-SLANTED ENGLISH VERSION OVER QUITE SOME TIME. BIYA'S RESPONSE TO THE DELEGATION WAS ALMOST CERTAINLY CAUTIOUS AND NONCOMMITTAL SINCE, AS INDICATED REF C, CAMEROON HAS REFUSED TO "CHOOSE SIDES" IN AFRICAN HORN CONFLICTS. SPIRO

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED OAU COLLECTIVE.

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOODWILL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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From: YAOUNDE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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